GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:982
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2008
SETTING UP OF GLOBAL ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR THE PEOPLE OF INDIAN ORIGIN
Bishnoi Shri Kuldeep

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government plans to set up a Global Advisory Council for the people of Indian Origin;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith its terms of reference; and

(c) the time by which the Council is likely to start functioning?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a) to (c): During PBD 2008 held at New Delhi, Prime Minister of India announced the establishment of Prime Minister's Global Council of People of Indian Origin. This Council will comprise of people of Indian Origin from a variety of disciplines who are recognized as leaders in their respective fields, not only in their country of residence but globally as well. The council would serve as a high level platform for the Prime Minister to draw upon the experience, knowledge and wisdom of the best Indian minds wherever they may be based. The council would function as a sounding board and a 'think tank' to

(a) effectively address the concerns and problems of Overseas Indians and

(b) encouraging the Overseas Indians to share their expertise, experience and

(c) to promote an environment for attracting the resources of Overseas Indians for development opportunities in India. The process of establishment of the council is underway and it is expected to start functioning before the next Pravasi Bharatiya Divas.